word, and be one in that faithful communion with the mystical body of thy Son, by which they will grow up unto him in all things; and glorifying thee in thy Church on earth, with one heart and one mouth, be finally numbered with thy saints in thy Church triumphant. All which we ask through the merits of the same thy Son Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

¶ Then shall be sung the "Gloria in Excelsis."

ADDRESSES.

Let us pray.

O LORD, we beseech thee, let thy continual pity cleanse and defend thy Church; and because it cannot continue in safety without thy succour, preserve it evermore by thy help and goodness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O GOD, the protector of all that trust in thee, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy; increase and multiply upon us thy mercy; that, thou being our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we finally lose not the things eternal. Grant this, O heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ's sake our Lord. *Amen.*

THE peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

¶ In the absence of the Bishop, this service may be performed by the minister of the congregation, or any other minister, provided that if he be only in deacon's orders, he shall, instead of the benediction, say,

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

CHURCH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FORM OF PRAYER

AT THE

LAYING OF THE CORNER-STONE

OF THE

Church of the Covenant,

IN THE

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA.

April 22d, 1861.

PHILADELPHIA:

KING & BAIRD, PRINTERS, 607 SANSOM STREET.

1861.

A

FORM OF PRAYER

AT THE

LAYING OF THE CORNER-STONE

OF THE

Church of the Covenant,

IN THE

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA.

¶ At the time of the laying of the stone, the Bishop, with the Clergy, the Wardens and Vestrymen of the Parish, and others, shall go up, in procession, to the place where the Church or Chapel is to be erected, repeating the following Psalm:

Psalm 122. *Lætatus sum.*

I WAS glad when they said unto me, We will go into the house of the Lord.

2. Our feet shall stand in thy gates, O Jerusalem.

3. Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity in itself.

4. For thither the tribes go up, even the tribes of the Lord, to testify unto Israel, to give thanks unto the name of the Lord.

5. For there is the seat of judgment, even the seat of the house of David.

6 O pray for the peace of Jerusalem; they shall prosper that love thee.

7 Peace be within thy walls, and plenteousness within thy palaces.

8 For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will wish thee prosperity.

9 Yea, because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek to do thee good.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. *Amen.*

ADDRESS.

¶ The Bishop, standing near the corner-stone, shall say,

Christian Brethren,—It is decent, and proper, and agreeable to the precepts and examples of Holy Writ, that in all our doings we should beseech Almighty God, from whom cometh every good and perfect gift, to direct us with his most gracious favour, and to further us with his continual help. Especially, therefore, when we are now assembled to commence a house which is to be set apart to his honour and service, and in which his holy name is to be worshipped, and his word and sacraments to be proclaimed and celebrated, by the ministry whom he hath commissioned, let us humbly and devoutly supplicate his assistance, protection, and blessing.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who art always more ready to hear than we to pray, and art wont to give more than either we desire or deserve; pour down upon us the abundance of thy mercy, forgiving us those things whereof our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask, but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord. *Amen.*

STIR up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by thee be plenteously rewarded through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

DIRECT us, O Lord, in all our doings, with thy most gracious favour, and further us with thy continual help; that in all our works begun, continued and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy name; and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

OUR Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name; Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven; Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

¶ Then the inscription on the stone, if any, shall be read, and notice may be given of deposites made therein.

¶ Then, the corner-stone being laid in its place, the Bishop shall say,

Our help is in the name of the Lord;

Ans. Who hath made heaven and earth.

Bp. Except the Lord build the house, their labour is but lost that build it.

¶ Then the Bishop, striking the stone three times with a hammer, shall say,

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen. I lay the corner-stone of an edifice to be here erected by the name of the Church of the Covenant, and to be devoted to the service of Almighty God, agreeably to the principles of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, in its doctrines, ministry, liturgy, rites, and usages.

Other foundation can no man lay than that which is laid, even Jesus Christ; who is God over all, blessed for evermore; and in whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins. *Amen.*

Bp. O Lord, open thou our lips;

Ans. And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

Bp. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

Ans. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.

Bp. Praise ye the Lord.

Ans. The Lord's name be praised.

Psalm 96; verses 1, 11, 15, 16.

From the cxviii. *Psalm of David.*

1.

All hail the power of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown him Lord of all.

2

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,
Ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail him who saves you by his grace,
And crown him Lord of all.

3

Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget
The wormwood and the gall;
Go, spread your trophies at his feet,
And crown him Lord of all.

4

Let every kindred, every tribe,
On this terrestrial ball,
To him all majesty ascribe,
And crown him Lord of all.

[A Collection in aid of the Building Fund will be taken up after the first address.]

Bp. The law was given by Moses;
Peop. But grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.
Bp. and Peop. Who is God over all, blessed for evermore. *Amen.*

¶ Then shall the Bishop say,

Let us pray.

BLESSED be thy name, O Lord, that it hath pleased thee to put it into the hearts of thy servants to commence the erection of a building in which thy holy name is to be worshipped, and the messages of reconciliation are to be proclaimed, and the means and pledges of thy grace and mercy administered. Prosper thou them, O God, in this their undertaking; O prosper thou their handywork. Give to those who have the management of the concerns of this congregation, unity of council, purity of intention, and a supreme aim at the advancement of thy glory, in promoting the extension and interests of thy holy Church, appointed for the salvation of mankind. Guard by thy providence every thing which may appertain to the building which is now begun in thy fear, and in dependence on thy blessing. Excite the skill and animate the industry of the superintendents and workmen. Protect them from accident, and from danger. And grant that all who are in any way connected with this temple to be made with hands, may seek those influences of thy Holy Spirit by which their souls will be made temples holy unto thee, and prepared for that city of the living God, which is eternal in the heavens. Animate us all who are here present, O God of our salvation, with the same holy purpose; that, seeking supremely thy mercy and favour, through thy Son our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, in the ordinances of thy sanctuary on earth, we may finally be admitted to unite in the praises, and to partake of the felicity, of the company of the redeemed, in the courts of the heavenly Zion. And hasten, we beseech thee, the time when thy Church, at unity in itself, shall serve thee in godly quietness, and when all who profess thy holy name, may agree in the truth of thy holy